



# **Manager, Coach & Parent Guide**

**Safety Rules, Policy & Procedures**

**Code of Conduct & Manager Responsibility Rules**

**Baseball & Softball Inter-League Rules**

**P.O. BOX 321522**

**COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA 32932-1522**

**March 2015**

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## 1.0 Purpose

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This document has been prepared for distribution to all players, parents, volunteers, coaches, and managers.

- It establishes rules and procedures that not only enable Space Coast Little League (SCLL) to operate as a little league, but more importantly promote a safe and fun environment to all participants and spectators at the Cocoa Beach and Cape Canaveral Field(s)/Facilities.

If you are receiving this document in either a paper copy or electronic copy, please read through before the start of the baseball/softball season

## **2.0 Little League Pledge**

Encourages all participants, parents, grandparents and friends of the community to fully understand and believe in the Little League Pledge, which states:

**I Trust in God, I Love My Country,  
I Will respect Its Laws,  
I Will Play Fair And Strive To Win,  
But Win Or Lose,  
I Will Always Do My Best.**

### 3.0 Board Of Directors

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Board of Directors are elected at the last Monday of September at 7:00 p.m. each year for the purpose of electing new Members, electing the Board of Directors, receiving reports, reviewing the Constitution, and appointing committees.

President ..... Raj Balkaran (321) 205-3849  
Vice President ..... Rick Hester (321) 432-8364  
Treasurer ..... Peggy Blazeic  
Secretary ..... Vacant  
Information Officer ..... Interim Raj Balkaran (321) 205-3849  
Player Agent ..... Interim Rick Hester (321) 432-8364  
Safety Officer ..... Rick Hester (321) 432-8364  
Fundraising ..... Vacant  
Umpire Chief ..... Interim Raj Balkaran (321) 205-3849  
Equipment/Uniform Officer ..... Tom Blazeic  
Concession Manager ..... Interim Raj Balkaran (321) 205-3849

## 4.0 League Address

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- **Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 321522

Cocoa Beach, FL 32932-1522

- **Field Address #1**

Cocoa Beach Ball Fields

1500 Minuteman Causeway, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

- **Field Address #2**

Cape Canaveral Ball Field

7920 Orange Avenue, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

- **Official League Website** - Game & practice schedules, field locations, forms, registration, league info:

[WWW.SPACECOASTLITTLELEAGUE.ORG](http://WWW.SPACECOASTLITTLELEAGUE.ORG)

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM.SPACECOASTLL](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM.SPACECOASTLL)

- **Official League Email**

General Inquiries : [info@spacecoastlittleleague.org](mailto:info@spacecoastlittleleague.org)

Board of Directors: [scll@spacecoastlittleleague.org](mailto:scll@spacecoastlittleleague.org)

## 5.0 Emergency Assistance Telephone Numbers

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- *Any Emergency* .....9-1-1
- Cocoa Beach Police Department .....321-868-3307
- Brevard County Sheriff's Dept. (Canaveral Precinct)..... 321-868-1113
- Cape Canaveral Hospital .....321-752-4333

## 6.0 Distribution Of Space Coast Little League Safety Manual

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- All managers will receive a copy of the Space Coast Little League Safety Plan.
- All Staff of the concession stand and volunteers will have access to view posted safety plan in Space Coast Little League concession stands at Cocoa Beach and Cape Canaveral Ball Fields.
- The League President and/or Safety Officer will keep a copy of the Space Coast Little League Safety Manual on disk for future reference. A Safety Manual will also be distributed to all board members.
- In the event of an emergency, the emergency numbers will be posted in the concession stand and press box at both of the Space Coast Little League fields.



## 7.0 First Aid And Injury

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- A first aid kit will be provided to each manager and these kits are to be readily available by each team at all practices and games. Please familiarize yourself with the contents of your first aid kit and restock it after each use.
- First aid kits are also located in each concession stand for use to handle minor injuries
- Space Coast Little League requests that you call 9-1-1 and let trained emergency personnel handle any major emergency at our complexes and allow them to handle the situation. Please do not attempt to move anyone that may have a serious injury and do not discuss the injury with the person.
- Try to keep the injured person as calm as possible until emergency personnel have arrived. Your role may be that of a skilled assistant and in that role please do your best to support the efforts of the person in charge. Please do not attempt to treat someone beyond your ability.
- The umpire is the "On Duty" Safety Director during all games and the managers and coaches are the "On Duty" Safety Director during their team's practices.
- There is a listing of emergency telephone numbers listed in each concession stand and the also in the "press box" at each field.

**PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITATIONS!!**

## 8.0 Communicable Disease Procedures

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- Bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and the uniform changed if there is blood on it before the athlete may continue.
- Routinely use gloves to prevent exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids are anticipated (provided in first-aid kit).
- Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces with soap if contaminated with blood *and/or* other bodily fluids.
- With soap, clean all blood contaminated surfaces and equipment.
- Managers, coaches and volunteers with open wounds should refrain from all direct contact with players until the condition is resolved.
- Follow accepted guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and disposal when handling bloody dressing, mouth guards, and other articles containing body fluids

## 9.0 Dehydration, Heat Exhaustion, & Heat

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- Spring and summer months in Florida see the temperatures possibly reaching 100 degrees
- Heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and dehydration occur frequently and can be avoided. Managers and coaches should assure that their team members drink adequate amounts of fluids i.e.: water or sports drinks (no soft drinks) before, during and after a game or practice.
- **DEHYDRATION:**
  - BEFORE: Drink 8 oz. Before starting a game or practice.
  - DURING: Drink at least 4 oz. Every 20 minutes.
  - AFTER: Drink 16 oz. For every pound of weight lost
    - Dehydration signs: Fatigue, flushed skin, light headed
      - Severe signs:
        - Muscle spasms
        - Clumsiness
        - Delirium.
- What to do: Stop all activities, get out of the sun and drink plenty of fluids.

**"WHEN IT'S HOT, DRINK BEFORE YOU'RE THIRSTY"**
- **HEAT EXHAUSTION:**
  - Body temperature will feel normal with cool and clammy skin. Severe fatigue, weakness, and light headed.
  - Treatment: Stop all activities and move to a cool location or shade. Drink up to a quart of fluids.
- **HEAT STROKE:**
  - Hot, dry, flushed skin, confusion, delirious and disoriented.
  - Treatment: consider heat stroke an immediate life-threatening situation and call 9-1-1 for emergency personnel to respond.

## 10.0 Accident Reporting Procedure

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- Why Do Accidents Happen?
  - Statistical data indicates that the most significant cause of accidents, accounting for roughly 80 of all recorded events is HUMAN ERROR!
  - Awareness is the key. Most accidents can be avoided by being aware of your surroundings and what is going on around you.
- Accidents - What Should I Do?
  - Each manager is required to have the Little League Baseball Accident Notification Form (which can be downloaded from the official website of Little League Baseball) in his or her possession at every team game and practice.
  - Immediately following an injury, managers must complete the Little League Baseball Accident Notification Form (how the accident occurred and what injuries were treated) and forward it to the Safety Officer within 48 hours of the accident.
  - If the safety officer is unavailable, place the completed report in the concession stand and notify the safety officer that you have done so. If needed, the concession stand(s) will also have a blank accident report.

### **DOCUMENT!! DOCUMENT!! DOCUMENT!!**

- Managers must have in their possession at each practice and game the players medical release forms. These forms allow treatment for a player in the event their parent or legal guardian is unavailable at the time of injury and treatment.
- Learn from the accident - are there any changes in training, facilities, or equipment needed? If so, discuss the changes with a Space Coast Little League board member or Safety Officer.

## 11.0 Inclement Weather Policy & Procedure

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- Our goal at Space Coast Little League is to keep our kids as safe as possible. Since Florida is considered the lightning strike capitol of the world, this policy is extremely important and must be adhered to.
  
- Space Coast Little League policy on this matter is as follows:
  - SCLL will have a safety representative present at every game and practice, i.e. umpire, managers, coaches.
  - SCLL will make every attempt to notify teams of unsafe playing conditions ofr a game or practice by emailing, using the call system, updating [www.spacecoastlitleleague.org](http://www.spacecoastlitleleague.org) and status updates on Facebook.
  - Lightning detectors are provided at each field. Prior to the game ensure the detector is in good working order. If lightning is detected within an 8-10 mile range of the fields, all games or practice must be stopped immediately and appropriate shelter must be taken (dugouts are not considered appropriate shelter). The game will continue only when the umpire deems it safe to resume play. If the umpire deems it unsafe to continue, the game will be played at a later date.
  
  - Once a game or practice has been suspended, all players, coaches and fans must take immediate action to move to cover or other safe location.
  
- "Do's" for inclement weather:
  - Move to a vehicle keeping the windows up, or seek shelter in an enclosed building.
  - Stay inside until a safety representative deems it is safe to come out.
  
- "Don't's" for inclement weather:
  - Never stay outside next to a fence, light pole, tree, or metal bleachers.
  - Avoid water, open fields, and the use of a telephone.

**REMEMBER ... THE UMPIRES HAVE THE FINAL WORD!**

**PLEASE BE KIND AND BE PATIENT.**

## 12.0 Concession Stand Rules

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- The concession stand is the ongoing fundraiser for the league and a major component of SCLL finances in keeping registration fees low each season.
  - We also do concessions for Cocoa Beach Junior/Senior High School Baseball and Softball Varsity & Junior Varsity games.
- Home Teams will be responsible for volunteers for the concession stand at each game.
  - Rookie, Minor, Majors and Juniors Baseball and Softball teams only.
- Team Mom's should coordinate with the Team Manager and Concession Manager to work out a schedule for games.
- Each team will take a shift during the season working concessions during CBHS games when there is NOT a little league game scheduled.
- Concession stand workers must comply with Brevard County ordinances governing food preparation/distribution facilities.
- Concession Stand Managers are responsible for all safety issues in the concession stands i.e. volunteer training, equipment in good working condition, assuring that food is cooked properly, wet flooring, children helpers and general cleanliness.
- No more than two children shall be permitted in the concession stand(s) at one time.
  - Two adults should be present at all times in the concession stand(s).
  - All adults working the concession stand must know where the fire extinguisher is located and how to properly use it (instructions posted over the fire extinguisher)
- The concession manager shall train all adult volunteers on the proper use of all equipment used in the concession stand(s) to help in the prevention of injury.
- Additional General Concession Rules:
  - Concession stand will be manned by a group of assigned volunteers
  - No one under the age of 12 will work handling money.

- No one under the age of 12 will work the hot items unless their own parent is present and taking supervisory responsibility. Example: grill, coffee maker, microwave.
- Groups must clean the food area up after the concession stand closes.
- Workers must wash their hands before handling food products.
- No pets allowed in the concession stand area.
- No Coaches, Umpires, Ballplayers or Unauthorized persons will be allowed in the food service area while the concession stand is open.
- When the concession stand closes items on the shelves must be restocked.
- Umpires working games will be allowed drinks to keep them hydrated and one meal (i.e. hamburger, cheeseburger, hot dog) at no charge.
- *NO food will be given away at any time* for any other reason without the concurrence of the concessions manager or league president.

## 13.0 SCLL Manager/Coach/Parent/Player Responsibilities

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- Space Coast Little League and little league baseball, requires all key volunteers to fill out the little league volunteer form and present a government issued picture . These persons are included, but are not limited to:
  - Board members
  - Managers
  - Coaches
  - Team support coordinators and concessions workers.
- In general, anyone who will have contact with your children at SCLL activities.
- No volunteer/adult is allowed on the practice playing field (inside the fence) unless a background check has been completed.
  
- Managers/Coaches Responsibilities:
  - To teach to the best of their ability the proper techniques of the games of baseball and softball.
  - To be punctual for all league activities.
  - To be as fair as possible.
  - To be positive at all times.
  - To help teach the proper value of winning and losing.
  - To handle every situation in a respectful manner.
  - To make baseball/softball an enjoyable experience for players and parents.
  - To make sure all parents are communicated timely of practice and game arrival times, start times, field locations, and changes.
  - Additional specific responsibilities are located in section 18.0
  
- Players Responsibilities:
  - To be punctual for all league activities including practices and games.
  - Respect all adult managers and coaches and umpires - no back talk.
  - Never argue with a coach umpire, parent any other player.
  - Always do your best.
  - Share in team duties i.e. picking up equipment, cleaning out dugout ... etc.
  - Encourage your teammates, always remember, baseball/softball are team sports and not individual sports.
  - Understand that winning and losing are important parts of the game
  - Have Fun!!



- Parents
  - Enjoy the game.
  - Let the players and your child make mistakes.
  - Always be complimentary and supportive of players that make mistakes.
  - Check practice and game schedules at [www.spacecoastlittleleague.org](http://www.spacecoastlittleleague.org)
  - Have your children where they need to be **ON TIME**. In general
    - T-Ball & Rookie Baseball and Softball
      - 5-10 Minutes before Practice Time
      - 15-30 Minutes before Game Time
    - Minor, Major and Junior Baseball and Softball
      - 10-15 Minutes before Practice Time
      - 60 Minutes before Game Time
  - Let the manager and coaches run the team. Please refrain from coaching from the stand(s) bleachers.
  - Support the manager and coaches; remember, the players are learning and make mistakes and the coaches will too.
  - Volunteer your time, become involved. SCLL always needs your assistance.

## 14.0 SCLL Equipment And Field Inspections

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- The managers and coaches from each team must help maintain a safe environment for all players and fans. This can only be achieved with the cooperation from all managers, coaches and umpires.
- The managers and coaches of each team should perform an equipment check before each practice and game.
- The umpire should also do an equipment check of both teams equipment before the game begins.
  - If any league equipment is not in a safe working condition and new equipment is required, please remove from play (do not use for practice and games).
  - Contact the Equipment officer for all equipment failures, defects must be emailed [info@spacecoastlittleleague.org](mailto:info@spacecoastlittleleague.org)
- Manager please do your best to take care of our equipment. Everything is expensive and our budget is limited.
- The managers and coaches will inspect the field of play before each practice and game. Use common sense rules: no rocks, glass, holes, animals, etc ... also all bases should be inspected for proper seating. A field survey form reflecting your findings of any anomalies will be completed by the manager/coach of the "home" team and given to the Safety Officer.
- An annual little league Facility Survey will be completed and maintained by the safety officer to address concerns for comparison when needed.
- Managers/Coaches before the start of practice or a game:
  - Walked the field for debris/foreign objects?
  - Inspected helmets, bats, and catchers gear?
  - Checked conditions of fences, backstops, and bases?
  - Make sure a working telephone is available?

## 15.0 SCLL Player Uniform & Equipment Rules

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- All league owned equipment is to be inspected at the start of the season by the equipment manager.
- All players' equipment (personally owned as well) must be in proper working condition or it will not be allowed to be used in practice or game situations.
- Proper playing attire must be worn (LL Rule 1.11 through 1.17). Full team uniform must be worn (cap, jersey, belt, pants, socks) during all home games, away games and special events. Shirts must be tucked in at all times!
- No uniform may be altered in any way by any Manager, Coach, Parent or any individual without the express written consent of the Board of Directors.
- Pitchers may NOT wear white undergarments (sleeves) under their uniform.
- All players must have properly fitted equipment at all times and per Little League Baseball rules and regulations (rule 1.17) *"All male players must wear athletic supporters. Male catchers must wear the metal, fibre or plastic type cup"*.
- Umpires, Managers and Coaches will be responsible for making any necessary corrections, adjustments or rejections of equipment. Using properly fitted, maintained and working equipment can help in the prevention of injuries and helps to keep our insurance costs down.
- Batters must wear Little League approved batting Helmets.
  - Batting helmets cannot be cracked, have loose or no inside padding, be painted or have any stickers attached to the helmet (unless attached by the manufacturer).
  - Knee and shin protector is recommended for use by players playing softball.
- Catchers in baseball or softball whether in practice, pre-game warm up, or a game must wear the following at all times:
  - A protective cup
  - Catcher's helmet
  - Facemask with a dangling throat protector
  - Chest protector

- Shin guards
- If a catcher does not have all the equipment on for warm-ups to start an inning, the pitcher should play catch with one of the fielders at first, second, or third, not someone standing at the catcher's position without equipment.
  - **Adults will never catch for the pitcher!**

## 16.0 SCLL Umpires

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- Competent leadership on and off the playing field is essential to the full benefit and enjoyment of the youngsters who plays Little League Baseball and Softball. A requisite to good leadership is knowledge of and ability to do a specific job.
- The umpire and other adults who perform services in Little League are looked upon in much the same fashion as is the manager and coach.
- Each must know his/her job and develop the respect of players and adults alike.
- Character, good judgment, and the ability to interact with youngsters, are the attributes of a good umpire.
- Umpires should:
  - Have fun, enjoy the game
  - Uphold all the little league rules to the best of your ability.
  - Be polite and courteous.
  - Be calm.
  - Be invisible.
  - Keep the game moving.
  - Be professional.
  - Assist in injured player or coaches, call 9-1-1 if necessary.
  - Don't argue with fans.
  - Don't argue with players.
  - Don't delay a game unnecessarily.
  - Don't use profanity or other offensive language.
  - Don't leave the field until game is completed.

## 17.0 SCLL Code Of Conduct - All Managers, Coaches, Umpires, Players And Parents

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- In addition to the following code of conduct must be adhered to during SCLL events, practice on and off the field, before a game, during the game and after the game:
  - No profanity allowed at any time.
  - No yelling or arguing with umpires, coaches, players, fans.
  - Good behavior is expected from players, coaches, parents & Fans.  
No alcohol allowed in the parks at any time.
  - No smoking allowed in stands or near players.
  - No Throwing/hitting balls against fences, walls, or dugouts.  
No throwing of rocks and dirt.
  - 
  - No climbing on fences, walls, dugouts or equipment.  
No horse play in walkways, dugouts, or common areas.
  - No  Scooter/Bicycles/Skateboard riding in the ballpark areas.
  - No Pets (except service dogs) are permitted in the parks at any time.
  - Be alert at all times for foul balls and thrown balls.
  - Observe the speed limit at all times and all other posted signs.
  - If you have authorized access to drive on to City fields to load or unload equipment or supplies:
    - Gates must be locked after entry
    - Vehicles parked away from practice field to avoid damage by balls
    - Shall not destroy pavement/terrain if vehicle is driven on unpaved surfaces.
    - Travel at speeds under 5 miles per hour.

## 18.0 SCLL Manager Responsibilities

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- As a manager, your first priority is the team you manage. All secondary roles on other teams such as coach, assistant coach, team mom or dad are just that, secondary.
- Please direct all game schedule issues/conflicts to the League Information Officer or send an email to [info@Spacecoastlittleleague.org](mailto:info@Spacecoastlittleleague.org) to ensure proper channeling to the opposing team's league. Such changes may impact home field advantage, umpire schedules, filed scheduling as well as concession revenue. All inquiries must be reviewed carefully by the Board before presented to the other league.
- Softball, Major and Minor managers should call the umpire for their home game the evening prior to the game. Verify the umpire plans to arrive on time and knows the location. Please be polite to these volunteers.
- Communication to your team can be facilitated by using the Call Multiplier system. This system allows you to send a message to every parent on your team. Every manager was sent this information a few weeks ago. If you did not receive it, please contact the Information Officer.
- Make every effort to start all games and practices on time, irrespective of game locations - home or away.
  - Do not delay the start of any game because the team is late or has not warmed up sufficiently.
  - Make the adjustments as needed to start on time. If you are waiting for players, coaches or favorable weather/filed condition to improve, please call for a meeting with the umpire (Minor/Major divisions) and opposing team manager to discuss any delays and/or cancellation of such games. Delays would reduce playing time because many games cannot go beyond the allotted time they have been scheduled for.
- Have lineups ready prior to the game and give it to the opposing team manager
  - Exception is T-Ball.
  - Player's position on defense must be rotated every inning in Rookie and T-Ball Divisions.
  - Managers in Minor should rotate players into and out of the outfield (don't stick players in outfield for entire game).
  - Major and Junior have no restrictions but it is recommended that less talented players get infield time during late innings where the outcome of the game is already certain.
- Managers can only play registered players for Space Coast Little League in their respective division of play.
- No manager shall appoint any player from another team or division to play on their team during a game. Any substitution or appointment must solely be made by the Player Agent.
- Make certain that only volunteers who have submitted a volunteer form are permitted on the field as a coach, manager, team mom/dad. SCLL will contact managers regarding unapproved volunteers.
- Managers must have all player information/roster packets, along with first aid kits with them at all home and away games as well as practices. If there is an injury, you will need this information.
- Abide by the rules of your division, either local rule, and/or Little League green/orange book rules (all team managers have received).

- Local league rules link: <http://spacecoastlittleleague.org/custpage.php?cid=714>.
- If you have not received the Little League green/orange book rules, please email the League Information Officer and/or President for a copy.
- Managers are responsible for the operation of Concessions at all home games at Cape Canaveral and Cocoa Beach ball parks with the home team volunteering their time to cover the entire game for the sale of hot food, snacks and beverages.
  - In addition, concession will need to be open for safety reasons - ice and water for injured or dehydrated players is located in the front floor freezer.
  - If you have not yet received information on accessing the Cocoa Beach Ball Park concessions or you do not have keys for Cape Canaveral ball parks, please email [info@spacecoastlittleleague.org](mailto:info@spacecoastlittleleague.org).
    - The exception is Tball which are not required to have concessions open for sale of food/snack/drink.
- Always check that home fields are safe for a practice and/or game play as well as proper lighting is provided.
- Home game managers are responsible for lining the infield including batter box and foul lines at least 15 minutes before the start of the home game.
  - Exception is Tball which is not required.
- Ensure bathrooms are unlocked at all home games.
  - Cocoa Beach Keys are inside the combination lock located on the door to the lights. Cape Canaveral keys are provided to managers.
  - If you are unsure or do not have keys, email [info@spacecoastlittleleague.org](mailto:info@spacecoastlittleleague.org).
- Managers are responsible for score board operations at all home games locations for Minor and up divisions of play, if such scoreboard is in operable condition.
- Managers must provide game balls at all home games. Minor and up should provide 2-3 new Little League balls - not practice balls.
- Please contact a Board member for any issue that may arise during a game, which may, but not limited to :
  - Unsafe field conditions
  - Blatantly unfair game practices/calls,
  - Unsportsmanlike conduct by any team, improper behavior by a parent, player or bystander.
  - Anything like this takes place during an away game, please reach out to the game umpire or opposing manager to have such concerns escalated properly.
- It is very important to address and report any injury or accident during a game or practice. Make all efforts to contact and/or involve parents in any incident requiring medical attention.



- Managers are responsible for
  - Closing and locking concessions
  - shutting off all lights
  - Storing equipment safely nad locking up equipment room after each use
  - Locking up bathrooms and gates after practices or games at home filed locations.

## 19.0 SCLL Pre-Practice/Pre-Game Field Inspection

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- Managers and coaches should inspect the following before the start of each practice and home game:
  - Bases-Infield area .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Field-Infield/Outfield area .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Rocks-Infield/Outfield area .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Glass-Infield/Outfield area .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Animals (snakes, alligators, etc) .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Holes- Infield/Outfield area .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Dugouts-benches, trash, roofs, etc. ....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Lights - if necessary are operable.....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Gates-dugouts outfield .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Concession is open with volunteer .....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐
  - Ice and first aid kit available in Concession.....SAFE ☐ UNSAFE ☐

## 20.0 SCLL Division Baseball and Softball Rules

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League procedures are written in conjunction with Official Little League Operating Manual and “Green Book Official Regulations and Playing Rules”. Our (SCLL) rules correlate with published Little League documents and the MILL (Merritt Island Little League ) Constitution, which is a legal document filed in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the league procedure is to clarify “Green Book Official Regulations and Playing Rules”.

Space Coast Little League has historically agreed, complied, and played under Little League and MILL local rules, and as such, will continue to do so unless SCLL teams are not inter-leaguings with MILL. Unless noted otherwise, these are the Space Coast Little League Rules:

### GENERAL ROOKIE & T- BALL DIVISION RULES

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The SCLL Board of Directors has adopted the philosophy to de-emphasize competition and to stress the fundamentals of baseball instruction in the Rookie and T- Ball Divisions.

1. Either team may borrow a SCLL registered player from within their division to play a game if they do not have nine (9) players present.
  - a. This player bats last and plays the outfield. No official uniform (hat, shirt, pants) is required.
  - b. The borrowed player must wear a hat and male players must wear an athletic supporter. (Rule: 1.17)
2. Rookie and T- Ball games may be conducted with fewer than 9 players at the discretion of the Managers.
3. Leading off a base is not permitted
4. Base stealing is not permitted.
5. Base coaches should not physically touch, assist, or hinder base runners in any way. This is considered offensive interference.
6. Any batter who releases, slings, or throws a bat in a dangerous manner may be declared out.
  - a. There will be 1 warning, and no exceptions.
7. There will be no infield fly rule in these divisions. (Rules 2.00 & 6.05)
8. An offensive coach should be provided at first and third base, provided there is at least one registered volunteer adult in the dugout.
9. One to three defensive coaches are permitted on the field during play on defense.
10. Two defensive Coaches may stay in the outfield grass between the second base and the shortstop position, thereby avoiding confusion with the offensive coaches located at first and third base.
11. A defensive or offensive coach must be located behind the catcher in order to assist the catcher, retrieve balls, and assist with positioning of the batter.
12. The continuous batting order option will be used. (Rule 4.04)
13. Rookie and T-Ball are non-umpired divisions
  - a. Rookie umpiring is based on consensus of both coaches on each team for each play, if needed.

## **1. T-Ball Division Baseball Rules (Ages 4-6)**

### **a. Coach Pitch Rules**

- i. A coaches will pitch on one knee, eye level to the batter, roughly 10- 15 feet away from home plate, overhand, roughly five yards from the hitter.
- ii. A coach will pitch 5 overhand tosses to each batter before the hitting tee is needed to put the ball in play.
- iii. Foul balls on the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch will result in additional pitches.
- iv. A fair ball should go a minimum of 8-10 feet. If the ball does not go 8- 10 feet it should be declared a foul ball. Managers may rule otherwise to keep the game moving.
- v. No walk, strikeouts, or HBP (hit by pitch) in Tee-Ball.

### **b. Defensive Rules (Infield and Outfield)**

- i. All players shall play an infield position at least one inning per game.
- ii. Coaches will rotate players each defensive inning throughout the game.
- iii. Only one player will occupy the pitcher's position.
- iv. The pitcher (player) will remain on the pitching mound, clay area, until the ball is put into play.
- v. All catchers must be positioned against the backstop fence prior to the swing of the bat.
- vi. Catchers are optional, but the player must wear the protective equipment listed in rule 1.17.
- vii. All players are to remain in their normal locations on the field until the ball is hit (ie. The pitcher must remain at the pitcher's plate and not creep up before the ball is hit).
- viii. All players will play defense, extra players will be evenly spaced in the outfield.
- ix. Defensive players should be taught to avoid blocking the base or base path of the runner to prevent a pending accident
- x. Player(s) put out at any base shall NOT be removed from the bases.
- xi. The infield defense will remain traditional.
- xii. Remaining players evenly spaced in the outfield.
- xiii. Coaches will be on the field with players providing instruction, positive feedback and encouragement.

### **c. Offensive Rules (Hitting and Base Running)**

- i. All players present are inserted in the continuous batting order.
- ii. There is no Infield Fly Rule.
- iii. No on-deck batter permitted for safety precautions.
- iv. No bunting or base stealing permitted in T-Ball baseball.

- v. A player will hit off the most suitable form that will be challenging and rewarding for each individual player based on current skill:
  - 1. T-Ball off a batting tee
    - a. Player will have 5 attempts to put the ball in play.
  - 2. Coach tossed T-Ball
    - a. A player will receive 5 overhand tosses to put the ball into play per bat .
    - b. *Only exception, a foul ball on the last overhand tossed pitch, another pitch is awarded.*
    - c. *If the player does not put the ball into play after 5 swings, a batting tee will be placed at home plate for 5 additional attempts.*
- vi. Play starts when the ball is on the tee and the coach calls “play ball”.
- vii. “Time” is called after each swing if the ball is not hit into fair territory.
- viii. “Time” is called following a hit and, after play stops.
  - 1. The ball should travel at least ten feet to be considered in “play”.
- ix. Batter/runners will remain on base regardless of out(s) recorded during a game.
- x. All base runners should stop once the base is reached, and the ball is in the infield.
- xi. All players will bat once each inning, regardless of the number of outs or runs scored.
- xii. On balls hit to the outfield, runners may advance two bases.
  - 1. Runners on base may **not** lead off until the ball is put into play by the batter
  - 2. Runners on base may **not** ‘steal’ a base on a pass ball to his catcher.
- xiii. The last batter runs all the way around the bases while the defense stays on the field until he/she touches home plate.

**d. Scoring and Game Limits Rules**

- i. Games will end (1) hour after the scheduled start time.
  - 1. *T-Ball is instructional. Therefore, no official score will be kept on the scoreboard*
- ii. A half inning is complete if:
  - 1. *The offensive (batting) team bats through the order complete.*
    - a. Note: There is no record outs in T-Ball.
  - 2. *This applies for the entire game.*
- iii. All games are scheduled for 3 innings. However, if time permits, and both managers agree, then additional innings may be played.
- iv. No inning will continue after 1 hour of play, unless the home team is at bat, in which case the game ends at the completion of the inning.

1. *Runners on base may not lead off until the ball is put into play by the batter*
2. *Runners on base may not 'steal' a base on a pass ball to his catcher.*

## **2. Rookie Division Baseball Rules (Ages 7-9)**

### **a. Coach Pitch Rules**

- i. The offensive manager or coach will pitch to their Rookie players.
- ii. Coaches may pitch from the mound or closer to ensure accuracy.
- iii. No walks, strikeouts or HBP (hit by pitch) in Rookie.

### **b. Defensive Rules (Infield and Outfield)**

- i. All players shall play an infield position at least one inning per game.
- ii. If there are 10 or more children on each team, the managers will field ten players. The tenth player must be a fourth outfielder.
- iii. Managers may opt to field an additional outfielder (5).
- iv. No player will sit more than (1) consecutive inning, and will not sit again until all others have sat the bench.
- v. Players must rotate defensive positions each inning at this level.
- vi. Outfielders must play at least 5 yards/15 feet from the nearest base on the infield.
- vii. Outfielders will not be stationed close to the infield clay.

### **c. Offensive Rules (Hitting and Base Running)**

- i. All players present are inserted in the continuous batting order.
- ii. There is no Infield Fly Rule.
- iii. No on-deck batter permitted for safety precautions.
- iv. No bunting or base stealing permitted in Rookie baseball.
- v. A player will receive 7 swings to put the ball into play.
- vi. The player will return to the dugout if the player does not put the ball into play after 7 swings.
  1. Only exception, a foul ball on the last pitch, another pitch is awarded.
  2. No out is recorded
- vii. Batters may advance to second base (double) on balls hit to the outfield.
- viii. If a defensive player has the ball in the infield, and all base runners have stopped at a base, all play stops.
- ix. Generally, any throw not caught by the infielder involved in a play on a base runner is an overthrown ball. An overthrown ball is one in which the ball is delivered so high, wide, or low that the infielder does not stop and control the ball by ordinary effort. On an overthrown ball:
  1. The runner may advance one additional than the base he was trying for when the ball was overthrown. The runner is at risk during advancement, and subject to being put out.

2. If the runner stays on base, or is not trying to advance to the next base, when a ball is overthrown, the runner can only advance to the next base.
  - x. Runners on base may not lead off until the ball is put into play by the batter
  - xi. Runners on base may not 'steal' a base on a pass ball to his catcher.
- d. **Scoring and Game Limits Rules**
- i. Games will end (1 ½) hours after the official start time.
  - ii. Rookie baseball is instructional. Therefore, no official score will be kept on the scoreboard.
  - iii. Teams may keep a scorebook to help enforce the five run rule.
  - iv. A half inning is complete if:
    1. The offensive (batting) team scores (5) five runs or,
    2. The defensive (fielding) team executes (3) three outs, or
    3. The offensive (batting) team bats through the order complete.
      - a. This applies for the entire game.
    4. All games are scheduled for 5 innings. However, if time permits, and both managers agree, then additional innings may be played.
    5. No inning will continue after the (1 ½) hours, unless the home team is at bat, in which case the game ends at the completion of the inning.

### **3. Minor Division Baseball Rules (Ages 10-11)**

- a. Visit the Local Rules tab at [www.spacecoastlittleleague.org](http://www.spacecoastlittleleague.org)

### **4. Major Division Baseball Rules (Ages 11-12)**

- a. Visit the Local Rules tab at [www.spacecoastlittleleague.org](http://www.spacecoastlittleleague.org)

### **5. Junior Division Baseball Rules (Ages 13-14)**

- a. Visit the Local Rules tab at [www.spacecoastlittleleague.org](http://www.spacecoastlittleleague.org)

### **6. Minor, Major, Junior Division Softball Rules (Ages 7-13)**

- a. Visit the Local Rules tab at [www.spacecoastlittleleague.org](http://www.spacecoastlittleleague.org)



## 21.0 SCLL Document Revisions

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Section	Description of Amendment/Change	Author	Date
Entire Document	Digitized document	Raj Balkaran	January 16, 2014
Entire Document	Added section numbers	Raj Balkaran	January 16, 2014
Section 18.0	Added Section 18.0 SCLL MANGER RESPONSIBILITIES	Raj Balkaran	January 16, 2014
Section 20.0	Added Section 20.0 SCLL Document Revisions	Raj Balkaran	January 16, 2014
TBD	IN POROGRESS		February 23, 2014
Section 3.0	Update Board Members	Raj Balkaran	January 19, 2015
Various	Updated 'Minor 2' to 'Rookie' Update 'Minor 1' to 'Minors'	Raj Balkaran	January 19, 2015
Section 20.0 1. C.	Update offensive hitting off Tee	Raj Balkaran	January 19, 2015
Cover	Updated new league logo	Raj Balkaran	March 1, 2015

Draft of .....

**President - Raj Balkaran**

President Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 03/01/2015

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